

October 20, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Michael Copps,

I am writing to voice my opposition to any FCC-mandated adoption of "broadcast flag" technology for digital television. As a consumer and citizen, I feel strongly that such a policy would be bad for innovation, consumer rights, and the ultimate adoption of DTV.

A robust, competitive market for consumer electronics must be rooted in manufacturers' ability to innovate for their customers. Allowing movie studios to veto features of DTV-reception equipment will enable the studios to tell technologists what new products they can create. This will result in products that don't necessarily reflect what consumers like me actually want, and it could result in me being charged more money for inferior functionality.

If the FCC issues a broadcast flag mandate, I would actually be less likely to make an investment in DTV-capable receivers and other equipment. I will not pay more for devices that limit my rights at the behest of Hollywood. Please do not mandate broadcast flag technology for digital television. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kevin Haggerty
592 Amsterdam Ave
New York, NY 10024
USA

October 20, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Michael Copps,

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Sincerely,

D. Jones
4101 SW 45th #208
Amarillo, TX 79109
USA

October 20, 2003

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Joseph Keglitz
511 Carbon St.
Pottsville, PA 17901
USA

October 20, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
1445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Michael Copps,

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Sincerely,

Scott Miliken
273 Bart Drive
Antioch, TN 37013
USA

October 20, 2003

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Walter Szewelanczyk
90 Ward Rd
Topsham, ME 04086
USA

October 20, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Michael Copps,

I am a graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology, with degrees in both Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, and have worked for multiple companies whose livelihood depends upon the production of copyrighted content, so I believe I am well qualified to share an opinion on technological and social merits of this proposal.

I am writing to voice my opposition to any FCC-mandated adoption of "broadcast flag" technology for digital television. As a consumer and citizen, I feel strongly that such a policy would be bad for innovation, consumer rights, and the ultimate adoption of DTV.

As an engineer, I also know from personal experience that every time some bean-counter comes up with one of these hare-brained 'content protection schemes,' they end up creating a product that costs far more to produce something that is not effective enough to challenge determined copyright infringers, and something that is often so crippled that no customers will want it. Witness the demise of numerous 'protected' content distribution schemes in the recent past: Divx network's 'self-destructing DVDs' were a huge market flop. Likewise the Sony Minidisc, consumer Digital Audio Tapes, and the RocketBook electronic book reader. All of these innovations offered extra convenience, or a smaller form-factor, or some other 'cool' advantage that business execs thought consumers would go for, but all were crippled in one way or another with restrictive rights management, and were resoundingly rejected by the marketplace.

If there is a lesson to take from their experience, it is this: if the FCC truly wants to help usher in a new era of digital communication, if the FCC wants to regulate communications in such a way as to maximize the benefits to society at large, then it must reject misguided pressures from the content-producers to limit technological innovation for the sake of supporting an old industry's business model. Times change, Technology changes. To allow the benefactors of the old technology veto power over the introduction of new technologies that consumers want, is to give those industries free reign to create as restrictive and monopolistic a scheme as they think they can get away with. The 'broadcast flag' proposal does exactly this and that is why it must be rejected, if DTV services are ever truly going to succeed in the market.

A robust, competitive market for consumer electronics must be rooted in manufacturers' ability to innovate for their customers. Allowing movie studios to arbitrarily veto features of DTV-reception equipment will enable the studios to tell technologists what new products they can create. This will result in products that don't necessarily reflect what consumers like me actually want, and it could result in me being charged more money for inferior functionality.

If the FCC issues a broadcast flag mandate, I would actually be less likely to make an investment in DTV-capable receivers and other equipment. I will not pay more for devices that limit my rights at the behest of Hollywood. Please do not mandate broadcast flag technology for digital television. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

John Martinez
445 Hembree Hollow
Roswell, GA 30076
USA

October 20, 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Michael Pliboff
12 Poplar Drive
Monroe, NY 10950
USA

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Sincerely,

William McMillan
4400 Valencia Dr
Mussey, MI 48014
USA

Saturday, October 18, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20534

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Commissioner Copps:

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later, clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie, send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative, or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Meszar
4616 Woodhurst Dr.
Youngstown, OH 44515

Saturday, October 18, 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

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Sincerely,

Famon Munoz
56 Windmill Lane
Levittown, NY 11756

Page 18
2003-10-15 07:20:52 (GMT)
Received from
Saturday, October 18 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Matt Dohm
12313 NE 46th Ct
Vancouver, WA 98686

Saturday, October 18, 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20534

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Commissioner Copps,

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Sincerely,

Rob Brink
8829 Buchanan
West Olive, MI 49460

October 18 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street NW
Washington D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Kenji Iguchi
-51-1 H-101 Nakendai Kanazawa-ku
Tokushima 7660057
Japan

Saturday, October 18 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
145 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

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Sincerely,

Jose E Perez
442 57 street
Brooklyn, NY 11220

Saturday, October 18, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

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Sincerely,

John Lambert
632 Mass Ave #613
Cambridge, MA 02139

Saturday, October 18, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

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Sincerely,

Gregory D. Doolittle
153 Meeker Road
Vestal, NY 13850

Saturday October 18 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

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Sincerely

Lance Gerstner
204 Pershing Ct
Hays, KS 67601

Saturday, October 18, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

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Sincerely,

Kim Mayfield
37500 Harper Ave. Apt. 202
Clinton Township, MI 48036

October 18, 2003

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Federal Communications Commission
145 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

John Nichols
P.O. Box 96
East Orleans, MA 02643
JSA

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Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

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Sincerely,

Nicholas Volosin
205 Malcolm Ave
Garfield, NJ 07026

Saturday, October 18 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Commissioner Copps,

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Sincerely,

BERT J. VELDHUIZEN
1216 DELRAY DR
Green Bay, WI 54304

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

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In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later; clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Sandherrich
6555 Press Road
Freeburg, IL 62243

Saturday, October 18 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

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Steven Rothkin
22A Hawkes Close
Ossining, NY 10562

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Sincerely,

Sean Harlow
3235 Pepper Ridge Drive
Maumee, OH 43537

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Michelle Kuhn
9355 Summer Meadows Dr.
Colorado Springs, CO 80925